January

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Dean, Jr. et al.

Attorney Docket: HE0083

Art Unit: 2872

Serial No.: 09/460,552

Examiner: Amari, Alessandro V.

Filed: December 14, 1999

Title:

Ferrule Having First and Second Body Portions with Different Nominal Widths and an Associated Mold and

Fabrication Method

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. sec. 1.111

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 17, 2002, the following faxed amendment(s) and/or remark(s) are submitted. Applicants respectfully request that this reply be entered into the record as a substantive reply to the outstanding Office Action.

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Facsimile Cover Sheet

To: Technology Center 2800

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Date: January 9, 2003

Pages including this

cover page: 9

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TAMMIE B. McFarland (828) 901-6792

RE: Reply Under 37 C.F.R. Sec. 1.111 and

Petition For Extension Of Time Under 37 CFR 1.136(a)

Serial No. 09/460,552

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